

4A

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/751,464	KIM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Linh V. Nguyen	2819	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

- 1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/17/06.
- 2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 - 6, 8 - 13, and 15 - 18.
- 3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 - 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

- 4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 - 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to communication filed on 1/17/06. Claims 1 - 6, 8 - 13, and 15 - 18 are pending on this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. 1 - 6, 8 - 13, and 15 - 18 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1 and 8, in addition to other elements in each respective claim, the prior art does not teach or suggest an apparatus/method of encoding digital data comprising: wherein side information corresponding to a plurality of layers and a plurality of encoded quantization samples are packaged into a hierarchical structure.

Regarding claims 3 and 10, in addition to other elements in each respective claim, the prior art does not teach or suggest an apparatus/method of encoding digital data comprising: wherein according to transformed bit-sliced encoding method, a portion of bit-sliced data constituting a predetermined bit plane is lossless-encoded, and position information of a peak, the remaining bit plane information, and peak data are encoded as side information.

Regarding claims 4 and 11, in addition to other elements in each respective claim, the prior art does not teach or suggest an apparatus/method of encoding digital data comprising: bit-slicing magnitude data constituting expressed data; lossless-encoding bit-sliced data composed of most significant bits; encoding sign data of a sample that first has a non-zero bit of the encoded bit-sliced data; and performing the

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lossless-encoding and encoding from bit-sliced data composed of next significant bits to bit-sliced data composed of least significant bits.

Regarding claims 15 and 17, in addition to other elements in each respective claim, the prior art does not teach or suggest an apparatus/method of decoding digital data comprising: decoding bit-sliced data corresponding to the predetermined bit plane with reference to the bit-sliced encoding method; and bit-combining the decoded bit-sliced.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Contact Information

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Linh Van Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1810. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 – 5:00 Monday-Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Rexford Barnie can be reached at (571) 272-7492. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are

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(571-273-8300) for regular communications and (571-273-8300) for After Final communications.

LINH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

3/28/06

Linh Van Nguyen

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Linh Van Nguyen', written in a cursive style.